

AL-V-B-073
Plank Road Tavern
Old Plank Road, near Barrelville
Ca. 1810

The Plank Road Tavern was probably constructed during the first quarter of the 19th century and is built in typical "tavern-style" with a five bay front end porch which faced the main road. The building was originally constructed of logs, one of the cheapest and most functional materials in the area. The tavern would have served travelers on the Old Plank Road, which ran from Baltimore to Somerset, Pennsylvania.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Plank Road Tavern

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Old Plank Road

CITY, TOWN

Barrelville

X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES RESTRICTED☒ YES UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Oscar Lepley

Telephone #: 264-3134

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. 1 Box 176

CITY, TOWN

Hyndman

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Pennsylvania

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 191

Folio #: 540

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Dumfries

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

M-V-13-073

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR
☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Plank Road Tavern is located on the east side of the Old Plank Road north of Barrelville, Allegany County, near the Pennsylvania line.

The house and former tavern basically consists of a two and one half story, five bay wide, rectangular shaped structure. The building is constructed of logs and has been covered with asbestos shingles. A one story wing abuts the main block on the rear east side, and the wing is also covered with asbestos shingles. The entire facade is supported by a high stone foundation with a plain water table. The roof of the entire building is gabled. The main block is covered with replaced asphalt shingles while the wing is covered with tin materials. The eaves of the roof exhibit replaced boxed cornices and frieze. Windows in the house include replaced, double hung wooden sash frames with one-over-one, two-over-two and three-over-one lights with plain trim. Other windows in the house include replaced single sash frames with six-light panels and single sash frames with side lights. The six light windows are placed in the gable ends and exhibit a wooden shelf on each. The main entrance is located on the front, west side and features a replaced paneled door with plain trim. A five bay end porch is placed on the front, west side of the house. The porch features a hipped roof and entablature supported by square columns and balustrade. A straight flight of stairs leads to the porch level and a picket fence and gate opens to the porch. One replaced, cement block chimney is located to the interior of the rear wing.

The house is structurally sound but has been drastically altered when renovated to serve as a house instead of a tavern.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

AL-V-B-073

| PERIOD | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES Ca. 1810

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Plank Road Tavern was probably constructed during the first quarter of the 19th century to house travelers on the Old Plank Road. The style of the building is typical of taverns constructed during the early years of the 19th century. It is a long two story building with a five bay, front, end porch which is located right next to the main road. The building itself was originally constructed of logs, one of the cheapest and most functional materials in the area.

The Old Plank Road ran from Somerset, Pennsylvania to Baltimore and as the name implies was constructed of planks. The first plank road was not constructed until 1836 in Canada.¹ However, the idea soon caught on and the roads became popular in the United States as well. Wood seemed to provide a more desirable surface for horses hoofs than stone or gravel. In addition, the roads were relatively cheap and lasted anywhere from four to twelve years depending on the wood used.

"The average U.S. plank road had a road bed of thirty feet and a plank at least eight feet wide."² The planks themselves ranged from three to four inches thick to nine to sixteen inches wide. They were laid on top of sleepers or rails and covered with sand or sawdust.³

1. Eric Slone, Our Vanishing Landscape (New York, New York: Ballantine Books, 1974) p. 68
2. ibid p. 69
3. ibid

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Allegany County Land Records Cumberland, Maryland 21502

Sloane, Eric. Our Vanishing Landscape. New York, New York:
Ballantine Books, 1974

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 20.59

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John Nelson and Joan Baldwin

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

5/23/77

STREET & NUMBER

507 National Highway

TELEPHONE

777-5967

CITY OR TOWN

La Vale

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY NO: AL-V-B-073

DATE: 5/23/77

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

191/540
20. 59 Acres

NAME OF PROPERTY: Plank Road Tavern

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: Old Plank Road (Somerset to Baltimore)

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: West

NAME OF OWNER: Oscar Lepley (1922) 264-3134

ADDRESS: Rt. 1 Box 176

Hyndman, Pennsylvania

STORIES: 1() 2(X) ³3() 4() 5() 6() BAYS: 1() 2() 3() 4() 5(X) 6() 7() ()

WINGS, ADDITIONS: Rear one story

DWELLING SHAPE: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- (X) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
- () BRICK: Bond type - common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
- () STONE: Bond type - rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
- (X) LOG
- (X) OTHER: Coverings Asbestos

WALL FEATURES: Belt Course, Pilasters, Others _____

FOUNDATIONS: High, Low, Brick, Stone

WATER TABLE: None, Plain, Beveled, Moulded Brick

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1(X) 2/2(X) 6/6() 9/6() 9/9() other(X) 3/1
pegged() nailed() wide() narrow() mitred() pediment()

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: West
HARDWARE: original() replaced(✓)
FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN
Paneled, Verticle, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)
original() replaced(✓) rafter ends, modillions, dentils, frieze, architrave

ROOF: Gable front, Gable flank, Hip, Shed, Mansard, Gambrel, Flat, Dormers # _____
MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt; original() replaced(X)

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed() hip(X) gable()

CHIMNEYS: Number: 1 Brick() Stone() Corbeled() original() replaced(X)
Location: Flush end() Inside end() Outside end() Central() Interior(✓)
Cement Block

ARCHES: Door & Windows: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:

USE: Residence
SIGNIFICANCE: Tavern-Architecture
DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1810
CONDITION: Fair

I N T E R I O R

FLOOR PLAN:

- () CENTRAL HALL: Two rooms, each side; double parlor, one side
- () SIDE HALL: One room deep, two rooms deep
- () IRREGULAR

STAIRWAYS:

- () ENCLOSED: Single flight, two flights with landing
- () OPEN: Single flight, two flights - one landing, three flights - two landings
- () DOG-LEG
- () DOG-LEG with WINDERS
- () SPIRAL
- () ROUNDED
- () SYMMETRICAL DIVIDED FLIGHTS

WALL FINISH:

- () PLASTER
- () PANELED: original; replaced
- () BOARD PARTITION: baseboard, cornice, chair rail, wainscot

FIREPLACES:

NUMBER _____

LOCATION: parallel to walls, diagonal

MANTELS: wood mouldings, pilasters, columns, masonry, marble

DOORS: paneled, board and batten, flush

HARDWARE: original; replaced

DOOR & WINDOW TRIM:

- () PLAIN
- () ARCHITRAVE
- () SYMMETRIC with CORNER BLOCKS
- () FLUTED
- () FLUTED with CORNER BLOCKS
- () ARCHED OPENINGS: elliptical, tudor

NOTES:

4401000m N
150 000 FEET
(P.A.)

450 000 FEET
(W. VA.)

4400

4399

42'30"

4397

FROSTBURG 4.1 MI
MORANTOWN 1.8 MI

3 III NW
STURGI

S O U T H A M P T O N

SOMERSET CO
ALLEGANY CO

PENNSYLVANIA

AI-V-B-073

AI-V-B-074

AI-V-B-069

AI-V-B-073

Plank Rd Tavern

Old Plank Rd, Barreville

USGS - Cumberland Quad

1:24,000

1949

AI-V-B-066

AI-V-B-067

AI-V-B-068

AI-V-B-071

AI-V-B-072

AI-V-B-070

AI-V-B-070

Mount Savage

Georges Creek

Barreville

GUMBERLAND

Run

Mapland

Lap

WENTWORTH

1000

1100

1200

1300

1400

1500

1600

1700

1800

1900

2000

2100

2200

2300

2400

2500

2600

2700

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FIGURE 52

AL-V-B-073

PLANK ROAD TAVERN

5/23/77 - John Nelson, Joan Baldwin



AI-V-B-073

Plank Rd. Tavern,

Old Plank Rd., Bartsville

John E. Nelson

5/23/77

north east

survey file



A1-V-B-073

Plank Road Tavern
Old Plank Rd, Barrelville

John E. Nelson

8/23/77

Southsp81